Guarantee of payments from SEBs to Private Sector

970. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the proposals from private sector for generation of electricity are stuck mainly on the issue of guarantee of payments from the State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to fulfil that guarantee;

(c) whether the foreign companies want a Sovereign guarantee from Government of India regarding payment of dues;

(d) if so, what steps Government are taking to give that guarantee and by when;

(e) what are the details of the projects which could get completed by January 31 this year; and

(f) what steps Government propose to ensure power availability to the industry and agriculture in the wake of liberalisation of economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some foreign companies have requested Government guarantee for payment of dues by State Electricity Boards.

(d) The Government of India will consider extending a counter guarantee for the payment obligations of the State Electricity Boards to the private power companies on the specific request of the concerned State Governments.

(e) As on 31st January, 1993, the following generating capacity was in operation in the private sector:

Tata Electric Companies . .	1606MW
Ahmedabad Electric Companies	503MW
CESC Ltd.	620MW
AP Gas Power Co. . . .	93MW
GIPCL	145MW
	2979MW

(f) Government is currently implementing a policy to attract private investment in the power sector, which would result in capacity addition leading to improvement in the overall availability of power to the country as a whole including availability of power to agricultural and industrial sectors.

Power Crisis in Western U.P.

971. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Western U.P. has been reeling under the worst ever power crisis, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are reasons for the power crisis;

(d) whether it is a fact that the power crisis has hit the industrial and agricultural (Rabi irrigation) activity;

(e) if so, the probable loss to Industry and agriculture due to this crisis;

(f) whether is is also a fact that as against the prescribed power supply for 12 hours a day only 3 to 4 hours of supply has been forthcoming; and

(g) if so, what steps the Government have taken to reduce/stop the power crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) During the period April-Jan. '93, the energy requirement in Uttar Pradesh was 27060 MU against which the availability was 24135 MU, which represents shortage of 10.8 percent. The main reasons for the power shortage in the Uttar Pradesh are the demand out stepping the availability of power and unsatisfactory performance of its thermal power stations.

(d) and (e) Industrial/Agricultoral activity depends upon various factors such as demand of the product, availability of raw material etc. for industrial activities and availability of seeds, fertilizer and availability of water for agriculture. Thertfore, probable loss to industry and agriculture due to power shortage alone can not be quantified.

(f) At present Agriculture Consumers in Uttar Pradesh are getting 12.5 hours per day (average) power supply.

(g) In order to mitigate the power shortage in Uttar Pradesh, it is envisaged to add 1607.5 MW capacity during the 8th Plan. In addition, the State will also get its due share from the Central Sector projects which are being set up in the Northern Region. Various other measures being taken to increase the availability of power in Uttar Pradesh include maximising generation from existing generating stations, implementation of Renovation and Modernisation Programme, Reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses, effective load management and Energy conservation measures and assistance from neighbouring States and Systems.

Setting of Joint Sector Power Projects by NTPC

972. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Thermal Power Corporation has been allowed to go ahead with the setting up of joint sector power projects by Government;

(b) if so, when the proposal was approved by Government and what is the estimated amount of investment proposed to be made by the NTPC the joint sector power projects; and

(c) what are the locations of the places, State-wise, where such joint sector projects are proposed to be located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The projects proposed to be taken